



**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT**  
**North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**  
**January, 2010**

**Personnel News**

Another year has ended, and it has been a tough one. The staffing cuts and furloughs have made a dent in our personal and professional lives. These cuts have diminished our ability to protect our rivers and groundwater and make every day a challenge as to where to spend our time most effectively.

However, I will skip the gloom in favor of the good stuff in our lives. Several children joined our water board family, Terri has custody of Jason, Andrea joined Maggie and her family, and five water babies were born: Matt B's twins, Cody's new baby, Rebecca's son, Craig's Mia, and Adona's Vida. I know everyone's families celebrated milestones including birthdays, graduations, and weddings. We also had two major professional achievements; Matt Buffleben earned his PhD and Charles Reed his PE. We said farewell to Janet Blake, Dave Evans, and Kathleen Daly, wishing them the best in their deserved retirement.

As an office, we had fun and contributed to our community including the outstanding parties organized by the

Fun hogs/Village green, food donations for the needy, and the Secret Santa program for kids. Our staff is awesome, generous, fun loving and hardworking.

We accomplished a lot last year and below, in no particular order, is a listing of this year's major accomplishments for staff and the Board:

1. Adopted the Low Threat Amendment, the amendment process protects the point source prohibitions while acknowledging the need to control storm water, incidental runoff and other low threat discharges.
2. Using outside resources we began development of basin plan amendments for a limited mixing zone policy and an amendment to our Hatchery Action Plan.
3. As directed by the SWRCB under Resolution 2009-0042 we reduced monitoring at nearly all of our UST sites, and completed Case Summary Reviews. We beat the deadline by six months!

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

4. Adopted a General WDR for In-Situ Soil and Groundwater Remediation at Sites contaminated with Volatile Organic Compounds and/or Metals to speed future permitting of this type of remediation.
5. Adopted WDRs for the Remco site where in-situ injections of reducing agents have been already effective in improving water quality.
6. The Internal Vapor Intrusion Guidance was released and has been cited in the SB in the Luft Manual revisions.
7. The RB staff developed and Underground Storage Tank Fact Sheet on the Site Closure Process to assist staff, consultants, responsible parties, and LOPs on the process used by RB staff to close sites.
8. Cleanup Staff assisted the Attorney General and recovered over \$100,000 dollars the state had spent to determine who was responsible the contamination of domestic wells in Santa Rosa and hooking up those wells to City water.
9. Adopted a waiver of WDRs for timber harvesting activities on non-federal lands that implements the TMDLs for the north coast stream and rivers.
10. Drafted WDRs for 2010 adoption on Green Diamond roads management.
11. Collaborative monitoring on the Garcia.
12. Adopted WDRs for Sonoma County Water Agency's innovative Stream Maintenance Program.
13. The SB Enforcement Reports, drawn from the CIWQS electronic database have been inaccurate for our enforcement program. To address this concern, staff reviewed, updated, entered data into the system, and coordinated the process with SB CIWQS staff to ensure appropriate data modifications. This year Admin is happy to report that the October 2009 -Enforcement Report provides an accurate representation of Region 1 enforcement activities. This is truly a milestone for us!  
CIWQS Team: Lori Foster, Nancy Negley, Robert Thompson, Emily Murry, Janet Hall, and David Leland.
14. Admin transferred correspondence (letters, orders, etc.) from paper files to electronic files to new electronic letter board. The e-letter board system is housed on the I drive

- and accessible to all staff. To retrieve a document, staff can search by correspondence date and/or subject title. All documents processed in 2009 are secure via the e-letter board system. The e-letter board is maintained by Terri Korell, Patti Corsie, Donna Poe.
15. Admin developed an electronic order book, serving as a reference for permit listings/order numbers. The e-order book is housed on the I drive and accessible to all staff. Changes or new order numbers are issued by Terri Korell or Patti Corsie.
  16. Expenditures Reports for operational and personnel services are prepared monthly and stored on the I drive for easy retrieval. Reports are formatted in Word and Excel spreadsheets with pie charts, for information sharing. Documents are prepared by Janet Mahoney and Patty Gorup.
  17. Renewed the Sonoma County and City of Santa Rosa MS4 Storm water Permit, with substantial strengthening of the permit to incorporate Low Impact Development principles and to include better demonstration of progress.
  18. In June, completed a public draft Klamath TMDL staff report, Action Plan, associated dissolved oxygen site-specific objectives for the Klamath River, and in December completed a revised public draft.
  19. We held community meetings with landowners on the Elk regarding the developing TMDL. We worked with HRC on their clean up and abatement orders and harvesting in the watershed, worked on grazing and drinking water issues.
  20. Adopted the Clean Water Act 2008 Integrated Report, which includes the Section 303(d) list. This report has since become the 2010 Integrated Report.
  21. Developed and signed the Klamath River TMDL Implementation MOA with Oregon Dept of Environmental Quality and EPA 9 & 10.
  22. Completed a pilot Russian River pathogen source assessment project with UC Davis support. This will provide valuable insight into sources of pathogens in the Russian River for the TMDL development process.
  23. Finished the process of dealing with the MMP backlog dating back to 2000.

24. Implemented a regular process for reviewing NPDES dischargers for MMP violations and developing ACL Complaints as appropriate.
25. Began to take on other enforcement cases outside the NDPEs MMP world, including in the nonpoint source arena.
26. Saved our two valued retired annuitants from the budget axe by showing how critical they are to the Governor's own initiatives.
27. Settled several lawsuits with NPDES dischargers.
28. Managed through the state bond shutdown fiasco, while securing grant funding for 4 new 319(h) projects in the region, all in high priority or TMDL watersheds.
29. Successfully re-organized the Timber Division to integrate a Nonpoint Source Unit.
30. Successfully negotiated WQ protection from proposed winter operations on decomposed granitic soils on a Scott River Valley THP.
31. Successfully negotiated a meadow enhancement project as part of a Siskiyou Co. THP to allow removal of trees encroaching into a meadow due to a lack of fire.
32. Successfully negotiated how to address "no water" THPs in Siskiyou Co.
33. Rich Fadness completed the SWAMP "Summary Report for the North Coast Region (RWQCB-1) for years 2000-2006"; and the "2009-2010 SWAMP Monitoring Plan," incorporating comments from many staff in the office.
34. In 2009, our crack 401 staff posted 92 public notices and issued 34 Notices of Exemptions, 87 Certifications, and seven NOVs. We also had 12 Amendments and 11 WDRs.
35. The Regional Water Board acted as CEQA lead agency for the Trinity River Restoration Program - Master Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Report for Channel Rehabilitation and Sediment Management for Remaining Phase 1 and Phase 2 Sites (approved on August 24, 2009). Presently gearing up to issue a 401
36. Laid the groundwork for an 2010 401 certification to Caltrans for the Hwy 101 Willits Bypass, which will be the biggest construction project in the state in 2010.



- 37. Some numbers from the timber division: reviewed over 130 THPs/NTMPs/amendments, conducted over 265 timber inspections, issued 65 GWDR enrollments, and issued 20 private land waiver enrollments.
- 38. Reviewed and commented (repeatedly) on BOF salmon protection rule revisions.
- 39. Adopted 7 NPDES permits, 1 MS4, 2 General permits, 1 waiver, 5 WDRs.
- 40. Inspected 45 NPDES wastewater facilities, 65 construction storm water sites, 30 industrial storm water sites, 221 WDRs, 7 land disposal sites.
- 41. Addressed 245 MMP violations.
- 42. Closed 25 UST sites and 16 SCP sites
- 43. Moved 27 UST, and 16 SCP sites in active groundwater clean up.

And that wasn't all, but a good list, and one we can all be proud of.

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**Update on the SWRCB Blue Ribbon Committee Process for the Evaluation of Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC)**

*John Short*

Water quality objectives are established for many pollutants that have been found to pose a risk to public health or the environment. According to a recent article in the New York Times, only 91 contaminants are regulated by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, yet more than 60,000 chemicals are used within the United States (<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/17/us/17water.html>). Included among these unregulated chemicals are pharmaceuticals, hormones and personal care products. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) established an expert panel to evaluate scientific data and make recommendations on CECs as they relate to the use of recycled water. The advisory panel process is being led by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP). The first panel meeting, in September 2009, focused on background presentations and perspectives of interested parties. The panel is expected to provide recommendations to the SWRCB in May, 2010. Further information on SCCWRP work on contaminants of emerging concern can be accessed at <http://www.sccwrp.org/view.php?id=53>.

**Enforcement Report**

Diana Henrioulle

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
10/20/09	Caltrans – Wilfred Avenue Interchange project	NOV	Stormwater and 401 permit violations	Discharger has taken corrective action; no problems observed at this time

Comment: On October 20, 2009, the Chief of the Watershed Protection Division issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Caltrans for its Wilfred Avenue Interchange project, citing violations of the Caltrans Storm Water Permit and the project-specific 401 water quality certification associated with discharges of sediment-laden runoff to receiving waters, inadequate Best Management Practices, and failure to properly notify the Regional Water Board of discharges. The NOV required that Caltrans immediately implement proper BMPs on the project. Caltrans has implemented corrective measures, and staff have not observed problems on recent site inspections.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
10/21/09	Quivira Vineyards	NOV	Failure to sample as required by storm water permit	Discharger has committed to future compliance.

Comment: On October 21, 2009, the Chief of the Watershed Protection Division issued an NOV to Quivira Vineyards for failure to sample storm water and to implement other portions of the monitoring program required under the Storm Water permit. The Discharger cited a change in employees and committed to comply with the permit in the future.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
10/27/09	Coast Wood Preserving, Inc.	ACLCL	Failure to submit annual storm water reports.	Discharger has paid penalty and submitted reports.

Comment: On October 27, 2009, the Regional Water Board Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) issued Administrative Civil Liability Complaint (ACLCL) No. R1-2009-0018 to

Coast Wood Preserving, Inc. for the late submittal of its 2006/07 and 2007/08 Annual Storm Water Reports, as required under the Industrial Storm Water Permit. The total proposed liability was \$4,430. In response, the discharger paid the penalty and submitted the past due reports. The Discharger has also submitted its 2008/09 Annual Report

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
10/28/09	Caltrans-Trinidad Rest Area	NOV	Failure to submit annual monitoring report	Discharger has committed to future compliance.

Comment: On October 28, 2009, the Chief of the Watershed Protection Division issued an NOV to Caltrans for failure to submit an annual monitoring report for its Trinidad Rest Area, as required under Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R1-2008-0032. Caltrans has committed to future compliance and indicated that it will submit the overdue report.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
10/28/09	Ukiah Auto Dismantlers	NOV	Failure to sample as required by stormwater permit	Ongoing; complying with schedule.

Comment: On October 28, 2009, the Chief of the Watershed Protection Division issued an NOV to Ukiah Auto Dismantlers for failure to implement various monitoring activities, including sampling, as required under the Industrial Storm Water permit. The NOV directed the Discharger to submit a revised monitoring plan for its storm water treatment system and percolation pond.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
11/25/09	Norman and Sharon Erlich; Rivers Edge RV Park	CAO rescission	N/A	Complete; no further action

Comment: On November 25, 2009, the Regional Water Board Executive Officer (EO) issued Order No. R1-2009-0125 to Norman Erlich, Sharon Erlich and Rivers Edge RV Park, rescinding Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2008-0118.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of December 31
11/30/09	Dimmick Ranch	NOV	Failure to submit reports required under conditional waiver.	Reports submitted; in compliance.

Comment: On November 30, 2009, the Regional Water Board staff issued an NOV to Dimmick Ranch for failure to submit the First Installation Report and the Annual Report under their Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements and corresponding Monitoring and Reporting Program Order No. R1-2009-0053. In response, the Discharger submitted the outstanding reports.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of December 31
12/2/09	Malm Fireplaces, Inc.	NOV and 13267(b) request	Failure to sample as required by stormwater permit	Ongoing; further enforcement action pending.

Comment: On December 2, 2009, the Chief of the Cleanups and Investigations Division issued an NOV to Malm Fireplaces for failure to comply with Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2007-0014. The NOV acknowledged work that had been acceptably completed and directed the Dischargers to comply with outstanding requirements under existing Orders for the site.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of December 31
12/2/09	Jon and Deann Green	NOV	Ongoing noncompliance with CAO and 13267(b) orders; new discharges	Ongoing; further enforcement action pending.

Comment: On December 2, 2009, the Regional Water Board AEO issued an NOV to Jon and Deann Green for continuing failure to comply with CAO No. R1-2002-0103 and a June 12, 2001 13267(b) Order, as well as for new violations, including creation of new sediment sources and new discharges to receiving waters. The NOV directed the dischargers to comply with outstanding requirements in existing Orders and to submit a

short term/emergency pollution control plan. Counsel for the Dischargers has requested a meeting with Regional Water Board staff in January 2010 to discuss outstanding and new requirements.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
12/17/09	Art Narvaez	NOV	Basin Plan violations associated with grading in a watercourse.	Ongoing; awaiting response from Discharger.

Comment: On December 17, 2009, the Chief of the Timber Harvest and Nonpoint Source Division Chief issued an NOV to Art Narvaez for Basin Plan violations associated with grading and discharge of soil and earthen materials in a watercourse. The NOV recommended that Mr. Narvaez implement corrective measures as soon as weather permitted and advised Mr. Narvaez that he would need to provide a plan of action and final documentation showing that appropriate corrective measures had been completed.

<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Discharger</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Status as of December 31</b>
12/17/09	Gordon Westerling	NOV	Failure to obtain proper permits and discharges of sediment to receiving waters.	Ongoing; appears to be in compliance with Storm Water permit this time.

Comment: On December 17, 2009, the Chief of the Timber Harvest and Nonpoint Source Division issued an NOV to Gordon Westerling for failure to submit a Report of Waste Discharge and for discharges of sediment to waters of the State. The NOV acknowledged that the Discharger had enrolled for coverage under the Construction Storm Water permit and submitted a SWPPP; the NOV directed the Discharger to comply with provisions of the Storm Water permit.

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### **WaterWiser**

[www.waterwiser.org](http://www.waterwiser.org)

Phone: 800 559-9855

WaterWiser is an Internet-based clearinghouse of water-efficiency and conservation information. The Web site presents an extensive reference database and products directory, as well as commercial and industrial water conservation tips and information on water-saving devices and water-efficiency service companies.

### **My Drinking Water**

The Water Boards regulate discharges to California's water bodies (streams, rivers, lakes, etc.) to protect our water and the State Water Board allocates water rights, but we do not regulate drinking water.

In California, drinking water is regulated by the California Department of Public Health's Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management. Pertinent links are:

[Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management \(DDWEM\)](#) (California Department of Public Health)

[Drinking Water Program](#)

[Food and Drug Branch](#) (California Department of Public Health)

[Bottled and Vended Water](#)

[Additional information for public water systems](#)

You can also find links to required annual reports from water suppliers as well as other information on drinking water at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Website "[Local Drinking Water Information/California Drinking Water.](#)"